

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A Request for Continued Examination accompanies this Amendment.

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 19-33 remain pending in the application.

This Amendment responds to the issues presented in the Final Rejection of February 21, 2008 and incorporates the comments and discussions made during the interview of May 29, 2008 as stated in the Interview Summary mailed June 17, 2008 and expanded upon below (*see* MPEP §713.14).

Independent composition claims 19 and 20 have been amended to specify that the microemulsion is a reversed phase, i.e. water-in-oil emulsion, a property inherent to the claimed compositions and one that a skilled person would infer from the disclosure of the invention, namely that the invention is specific to microemulsions in which form has reversed phases.

Attached is the evidentiary declaration of the senior inventor, Per Wollmer, made August 18, 2008, and it provides information concerning the reversed phase microemulsions of the present invention and emulsions formed by polar liquids generally. This property distinguishes from the disclosures of the U.S. patents to Baker and Wright discussed in item 3 of the Final Rejection and defines an invention that is patentably distinct from the disclosures of these documents whether considered individually or in combination.

Paragraph 11 of Mr. Wollmer's declaration identifies and discusses two review articles. For completion of the record copies of these articles are submitted concurrently herewith in an Information Disclosure Statement.

The term "not containing any active pharmaceutical agent" is deleted from claim 19 as the claim derives novelty and inventiveness on the basis of the restriction to reversed phase microemulsions newly incorporated into the independent claims.

During the interview and in the Final Rejection the examiner expressed some reservations with respect to the "preventing" terminology used in claims 31 and 32. Perhaps a more apt way of defining the situation is the fact that the airborne particles are trapped as reflected in the amended claims. Based upon the discussions at the Interview of May 29, 2008 it is counsel's understanding that these changes to claims 31 and 32 will resolve the examiners' concerns as to

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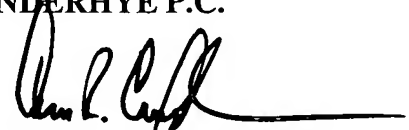
enablement of these claims, namely that the allergens/airborne particles are trapped and allergic rhinitis or other allergic event is avoided.

It is submitted that the claims of this application are now in condition for allowance.
Should the examiner require further information, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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